(c) which are the villages that are being electrified during 1994;

(d) which are the villages that are likely to remain without electricity after completion of the present electrification programme; and

(e) which are the villages having population of SCs and STs that have so far not been electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In addition to 65,587 villages, 10,07,965 pumpsets have been energised.

(c) Targets for rural electrification are fixed by the Planning Commission on the basis of the recommendations of a Working Group on an annual basis in consultation with State Electricity Boards. While, the target fixed for village electrification in Madhya Pradesh by the Planning Commission for 1994-95 is 250 villages, MPEB proposes to electrify 20,000 villages during the year.

(d) As per 1971 census 4584 villages, (other than 80 villages which have come under submergence or deserted subsequently) remained unelectrified as on 31.3.1994.

(e) As reported by Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, 654 Harijan Bastis and 2720 Tribal villages remained unelectrified as on 31-3-1994.

Janata Cloth Scheme

148. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to solve the Janata Cloth Scheme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that more than a million weavers of the country are likely to go out of employment as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any representation from the weavers association in this regard - if so, details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to reconsider its decision in regard to Janata Cloth Scheme; and

(e) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Government have decided to gradually phase out the production of Janata Cloth.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The phasing out of Janata Cloth Scheme is in keeping with the policy of Govt. of India to phase out subsidy oriented schemes. According to the phase out programme, the Janata cloth production will be gradually reduced each year till a level of 200 million square metres during the terminal year of 8th Five Year Plan. During the phase out, the Janata Cloth Scheme is being implemented in a modified format providing for an alternative Package of assistance in the form of equity for undertaking increased production of non-Janata cloth. In addition, an integrated scheme for setting up 3,000 Handloom Development Centres and 500 Quality Dyeing Units intending to cover 30 lakh weavers including those displaced by reduction in the Janata cloth production is being implemented. The alternative schemes have been designed to take care of the major problems of handloom weavers with regard to supply of inputs, design development marketing etc.